

In the Claims

Cancel claims 2, 10 and 14 and amend claims 1, 9, 13 and 18-20 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method of installing licensed software on an end user's computer comprising:

providing an end user computer having a program storage device and a unique computer identifier distinguishing the end user computer from other computers, the unique computer identifier being selected from the group consisting of a BIOS serial number and a network adapter address;

providing a network computer having access to a program storage device containing software selected from the group consisting of programs to be executed by the end user's computer and database information for license to end users and a program storage device containing a database listing computer identifiers licensed to run the software;

using the network computer to contact the end user computer and determine its end user computer identifier;

verifying listing of the end user computer identifier in the network computer database;

based on the verification that the end user computer identifier is listed in the network computer database, downloading said software from the network computer program storage device; and

using the network computer, installing the downloaded software on the end user computer program storage device such that the downloaded and installed software is not in a form that may be transferred from the end user computer and installed on another computer.

2. (cancelled)

3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein on installation on the end user computer program storage device, the software comprises a program for execution on the end user computer.

4. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the network computer includes a plurality of different software and, prior to downloading the software, further including:

identifying to the end user computer all of the software on the network computer program storage device listed as licensed by the computer identifier of the end user computer; and

sending from the end user computer to the network computer a selection of the software to be downloaded,

and thereafter downloading and installing on the end user computer program storage device the selected software.

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5. (original) The method of claim 4 wherein the identification to the end user computer of all the software on the network computer program storage device listed as licensed by the computer identifier of the end user computer is by an executable program on a program storage device of the network computer.

6. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein prior to identifying to the end user computer the software on the network computer program storage device, further including:

sending to the network computer, from the end user computer, a command to run the program identifying to the end user computer the software listed as licensed by the computer identifier of the end user computer.

7. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the program identifying to the end user computer the software listed as licensed by the computer identifier is not installed on the end user computer.

8. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the end user computer program storage device contains a damaged version of the software to be downloaded, and wherein the installation of said software corrects the damaged software.

9. (currently amended) A method of installing licensed software on an end user's computer comprising:

providing an end user computer having a program storage device and a unique computer identifier distinguishing the end user computer from other computers, the unique computer identifier being selected from the group consisting of a BIOS serial number and a network adapter address;

providing a network computer having access to a program storage device containing a plurality of different software for license to end users, the software comprising programs for execution on end user computers, and a program storage device containing a database listing computer identifiers licensed to run the software;

using the network computer to contact the end user computer and determine its end user computer identifier;

verifying listing of the end user computer identifier in the network computer database;

identifying to the end user computer all of the software on the network computer program storage device listed as licensed by the computer identifier of the end user computer;

sending from the end user computer to the network computer a selection of said software to be downloaded;

downloading the selected software from the network computer program storage device; and

using the network computer, installing the downloaded software on the end user computer program storage device for execution on the end user's computer such that the downloaded and installed software is not in a form that may be transferred from the end user computer and installed on another computer.

10. (cancelled)

11. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the identification to the end user computer of all the software on the network computer program storage device listed as licensed by the computer identifier of the end user computer is by an executable program on a program storage device of the network computer.

12. (original) The method of claim 11 wherein prior to identifying to the end user computer the software on the network computer program storage device, further including:

 sending to the network computer, from the end user computer, a command to run the program identifying to the end user computer the software listed as licensed by the computer identifier of the end user computer.

13. (currently amended) A method of installing licensed software on an end user's computer comprising:

 providing an end user computer having a program storage device containing a damaged executable software program for execution on the end user's computer and a unique computer identifier distinguishing the end user computer from other computers, the unique computer identifier being selected from the group consisting of a BIOS serial number and a network adapter address;

providing a network computer having access to a program storage device containing software for installing said executable software program and a program storage device containing a database listing computer identifiers licensed to run the software;

using the network computer to contact the end user computer and determine its end user computer identifier;

verifying listing of the end user computer identifier in the network computer database;

based on the verification that the end user computer identifier is listed in the network computer database, downloading said software from the network computer program storage device; and

using the network computer, installing the downloaded software on the end user computer program storage device and correcting the damaged executable software program for execution on the end user's computer such that the downloaded and installed software is not in a form that may be transferred from the end user computer and installed on another computer.

14. (cancelled)

15. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein the network computer includes a plurality of different software and, prior to downloading the software, further including:

identifying to the end user computer all of the software on the network computer program storage device listed as licensed by the computer identifier of the end user computer; and
sending from the end user computer to the network computer a selection of the software to be downloaded,
and thereafter downloading and installing on the end user computer program storage device the selected software.

16. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein the identification to the end user computer all of the software on the network computer program storage device listed as licensed by the computer identifier of the end user computer is by an executable program on a program storage device of the network computer.

17. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein prior to identifying to the end user computer the software on the network computer program storage device, further including:

sending to the network computer, from the end user computer, a command to run the program identifying to the end user computer the software listed as licensed by the computer identifier of the end user computer.

18. (currently amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps

for installing licensed software from a network computer to an end user's computer, said network computer having access to a program storage device containing software selected from the group consisting of programs to be executed by the end user's computer and database information for license to end users and a program storage device containing a database listing computer identifiers licensed to run the software, said end user computer having a program storage device and a unique computer identifier distinguishing the end user computer from other computers, the unique computer identifier being selected from the group consisting of a BIOS serial number and a network adapter address, said method steps comprising:

contacting the end user computer using the network computer;

determining the end user computer identifier;

verifying listing of the end user computer identifier in the network computer database;

based on the verification that the end user computer identifier is listed in the network computer database, downloading said software from the network computer program storage device; and

using the network computer, installing the downloaded software on the end user computer program storage device such that the downloaded and installed software is not in a form that may be transferred from the end user computer and installed on another computer.

19. (currently amended) A computer program product for use with a network computer and an end user's computer, said computer program product comprising a computer

usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied in said medium for installing licensed software from the network computer to the end user's computer, said network computer having access to a program storage device containing software selected from the group consisting of programs to be executed by the end user's computer and database information for license to end users and a program storage device containing a database listing computer identifiers licensed to run the software, said end user computer having a program storage device and a unique computer identifier distinguishing the end user computer from other computers, the unique computer identifier being selected from the group consisting of a BIOS serial number and a network adapter address, said computer program product having:

computer readable program code means for contacting the end user computer using the network computer;

computer readable program code means for determining the end user computer identifier;

computer readable program code means for verifying listing of the end user computer identifier in the network computer database;

computer readable program code means for downloading said software from the network computer program storage device based on the verification that the end user computer identifier is listed in the network computer database; and

computer readable program code means for using the network computer to install the downloaded software on the end user computer program storage device such that

the downloaded and installed software is not in a form that may be transferred from the end user computer and installed on another computer.

20. (currently amended) An article of manufacture comprising: a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for installing licensed software from a network computer to an end user's computer, said network computer having access to a program storage device containing software selected from the group consisting of programs to be executed by the end user's computer and database information for license to end users and a program storage device containing a database listing computer identifiers licensed to run the software, said end user computer having a program storage device and a unique computer identifier distinguishing the end user computer from other computers, the unique computer identifier being selected from the group consisting of a BIOS serial number and a network adapter address, the computer readable program code means in said article of manufacture comprising:

computer readable program code means for contacting the end user computer using the network computer;

computer readable program code means for determining the end user computer identifier;

computer readable program code means for verifying listing of the end user computer identifier in the network computer database;

computer readable program code means for downloading said software from the network computer program storage device based on the verification that the end user computer identifier is listed in the network computer database; and

computer readable program code means for using the network computer to install the downloaded software on the end user computer program storage device such that the downloaded and installed software is not in a form that may be transferred from the end user computer and installed on another computer.